

**I support proceeding 05-235** as published in the NPRM and urge you to issue a Report and Order as soon as possible.

I earned my first license in 1985. I obtained my license for the sole purpose of participating in emergency communications. I have served for 20 years as a volunteer with ARES and the Utah county sheriff's office, teaching amateur radio classes, serving as a volunteer examiner, and mentoring dozens of new amateurs. Explaining to prospective amateurs that they are required to learn a task that is better and more easily performed by a MODEM has been fraught with frustration. Many times I have seen good, bright, technically minded, enthusiastic, people give looks of disbelief followed by either resignation to their fate, or by disillusionment as they leave amateur radio forever.

Those who believe Morse code is a filter for amateur licensees are right, but not in the way that they think. The Morse code requirement most often filters out the young technically minded individuals who might breathe life into amateur radio for the next century.

I believe there is a place in amateur radio for Morse code and CW. That place is NOT as a testing requirement or as a prerequisite to an amateur license.

**Keith McQueen, KB7M**